

# THE SAILOR'S MAGAZINE.

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Vol. 30.

JUNE, 1858.

No. 10.

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THIRTIETH ANNUAL REPORT.

OF THE

**AMERICAN SEAMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.**

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THE AMERICAN SEAMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY celebrates to-day its THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY. A generation has passed since TRUAIR, writing in the old "Mariner's Magazine," after alluding to the success which had attended the efforts of individuals and local societies for seamen, first suggested the idea of a National Seamen's Friend Society, to secure "concentration of effort, and a unity of action and design";—a suggestion which was carried into effect in the Spring of 1828. Of those who participated in that movement, the greater part have gone to their rest. During the past year, we have parted with RUFUS DAVENPORT, Esq., who was a member of the first Board of Trustees, and who continued in that capacity till his death. He was one of the earliest, most active, and persevering friends of the cause in this city, having been also one of the founders of the New York Port Society, and chosen on its first Board of Directors in 1818.

The fathers and pioneers of the cause are passing away,—let it be the care of their successors to perform with equal fidelity the duties which devolve in turn upon them.

With still greater rapidity are those who constitute the objects of our sympathy and labors passing to their account. The average duration of a life at sea is little more than ten years, and nearly three generations of sailors have, within the brief lifetime of this Society, completed their voyage to eternity. How many of them have reached the "port of peace" we cannot know. It is at least a source of great gratification to believe, that not a few have done so,—that a class of men for whom half a century ago nothing had been done, or even attempted,—who amid the countless dangers both temporal and spiritual, to which they were exposed, were left in utter disregard, as if already foredoomed to perdition, are now recognized as within the reach of the Gospel, and in proportion to the means expended upon them, sharing as fully and richly in the converting grace of God's Spirit as any other.

The past year has been a marked one in the history of this cause—a year of mingled gloom and gladness. Unexampled disaster to business interests, depression of commerce, dismissing thousands of seamen to idleness and consequent temptations, and a diminution of the resources of the Christian public, have been followed by an outpouring of spiritual blessings, nearly, or quite without a parallel in modern times. We desire to record it with special thankfulness, that this Society has in respect to these events been doubly favored,—spared on the one hand from a falling off in its resources, and receiving on the other the signal blessing of God's Spirit upon its efforts both at home and abroad. We would devoutly regard these as a new seal of the divine approval set to its humble endeavors, and an encouragement to pursue them with increased energy and faith, till according to the promise "the abundance of the sea shall be converted to Him."

We proceed to sketch briefly the history of our work for the year.

## FOREIGN OPERATIONS.

### NEW BRUNSWICK.

ST. JOHN.—REV. E. N. HARRIS, *Chaplain.*

E. W. FLAGLOR, *Sup't. of Sailor's Home.*

Mr. Harris pursued his labors at this port during the last Summer and Autumn with a good degree of success. "I have," he writes, "felt more than usually encouraged from meeting parents, especially mothers, who have manifested the greatest pleasure in seeing me, from what their sons, and, in some cases husbands, have told them of the benefits derived from our operations in this city, humble and inadequate to the real wants of the port as they are." Four sailors were hopefully converted; one of them in connection with reading a Bible which his sister had given him in Scotland eight years before. Another, who two years previous had boarded at the Home in that port, on visiting it again, attended worship in the Bethel, and a few days after sent a grateful note of acknowledgment to Mr. H., stating that his sermon had prompted him that very afternoon, to commence a new life of service to God.

The pecuniary embarrassments of the Winter, however, together with the lukewarmness of some who should be supporters of the cause,\* so straitened the resources of the chaplain, that he was compelled to devote himself for a season to other fields of labor. He accordingly made tours for preaching through the maritime villages of that Province and Nova Scotia, and at length accepted a temporary engagement at Yarmouth, N. S., in the midst of a sea-faring people, and where he has an extensive field of usefulness among that class of men. It is not yet known what he will ultimately decide upon as to his future labors.

Meanwhile his late post in the "Marine Hall" at St. John's, as well as the

\* A prominent clergyman of St. John in a letter highly commendatory of Mr. H., says: "The course he has pursued in forming a Mariner's Church, in which he designs to receive *converted* sailors to the Lord's table without regard to creed, does not meet the approval of many in the denomination to which he belongs."

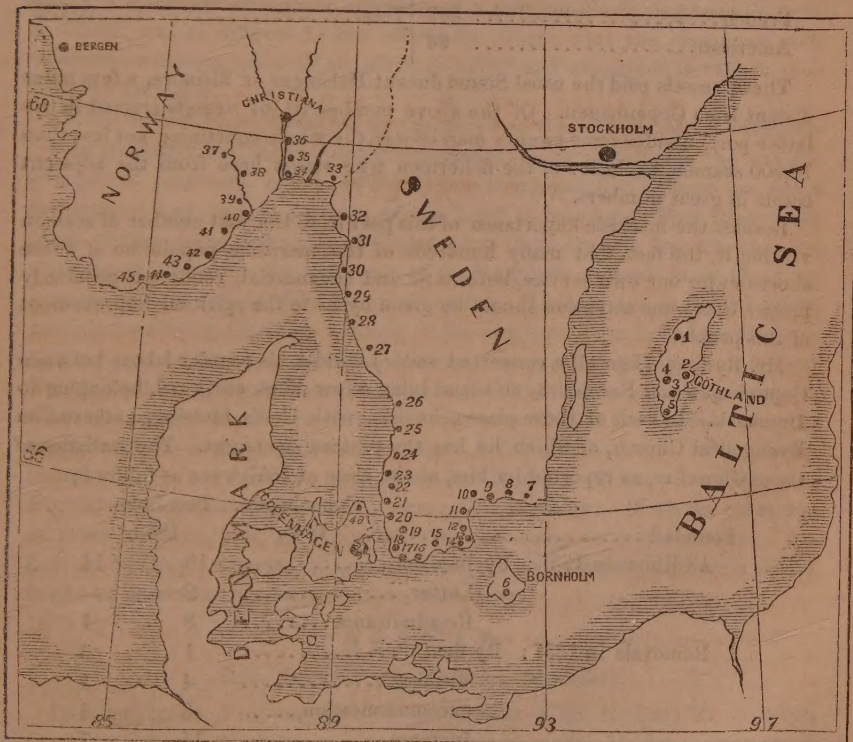


other preaching places for seamen in that city, are well supplied; the former by Rev. J. E. Bell, pastor of the Germain St. Baptist Church, and Editor of the "Christian Visitor." The "Back Shore Bethel" is supplied by Rev. B. Demill, City Missionary, and "Bond's Bethel," at Sand Point, on the west side of the harbor, by Rev. J. McInnis, of the Baptist Home Missionary Society. The average attendance of seamen at these places, is about one hundred. In the present depressed state of the shipping business, it is much less.

The Sailors' Home, under the care of Mr. E. W. Flaglor, is prosperous,—the present scarcity of seamen in port considered. The number of boarders from June to January last, was 300.

## DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN.—Rev. P. E. RYDING, *Chaplain.*



- |                    |                  |                    |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Wisby,          | 16. Tralleborg   | 31. Tranam,        |
| 2. Nyan,           | 17. Falsterbo,   | 32. Stromstad,     |
| 3. Skoga,          | 18. MALMO,       | 33. Frederiksthal, |
| 4. Stenbro,        | 19. Lund,        | 34. Moss,          |
| 5. Barshaga,       | 20. Landskrona,  | 35. Soon,          |
| 6. Ronne,          | 21. Helsingborg, | 36. Drobak,        |
| 7. Carlskrona,     | 22. Batsta,      | 37. Skien,         |
| 8. Carlsnavn,      | 23. Laholm,      | 38. Porsgrund,     |
| 9. Solvitzborg,    | 24. HALMSTAD,    | 39. Stathalle,     |
| 10. Christianstad, | 25. Falkenberg,  | 40. Langerund,     |
| 11. Aarhus,        | 26. Warberg,     | 41. Tvedestrand,   |
| 12. Cimbritshavn,  | 27. Gottenberg,  | 42. Arendal,       |
| 13. Hoby,          | 28. Kangel,      | 43. Grimstad,      |
| 14. Loderup,       | 29. Udevalla,    | 44. Lillesaud,     |
| 15. Ystad,         | 30. Braland,     | 45. Christiansand  |

KJOEBEN-HAVN the "Merchant's Port" is the key to the Baltic Sea, and to the Straits which lead into it. In addition to the large number of seamen resorting to that port, it is in the vicinity of numerous islands, and of the coasts both of Denmark and Sweden, abounding in villages containing a population almost wholly made up of fishermen and sailors. The importance of this station will be seen from the following statistics of the vessels passing the Sound in the year 1856.

German .....	6579	Italian.....	36
English .....	4772	Portuguese .....	30
Norwegian .....	3275	Belgian.....	19
Swedish.....	2358	Spanish.....	2
Danish.....	2396	Greek .....	1
Russian.....	422		
French.....	389	Total.....	20372
American.....	93		

These vessels paid the usual Sound dues at Helsingør or Elsinore, a few miles distant from Copenhagen. Of the above number 10,167 vessels arrived in the latter port, besides some twenty men-of-war, the whole containing not less than 70,000 seamen, exclusive of the fishermen who resort here from the adjacent coasts in great numbers.

Besides the intrinsic importance of this port from the vast number of seamen visiting it, the fact that many hundreds of the maritime population of these shores enter our own service, both naval and commercial, renders it peculiarly proper that some attention should be given by us to the spiritual improvement of this people.

Mr. Ryding, (himself a converted sailor) divides his regular labors between Copenhagen and Bornholm, an island lying a few miles eastward, belonging to Denmark. In each of these places, he has, with God's blessing, gathered an Evangelical Church, of which he has the pastoral oversight. The statistics of these Churches, as reported by him, at the close of 1857 were as follows;

	Copenhagen.	Bornholm.
Founded,.....	1845.	1853.
Additions in 1857: By Baptism,.....	13	14
Letter,.....	2	—
Re-admittance.....	8	1
Removals in 1857: By death,.....	1	3
dismissal,.....	4	1
excommunication,....	3	4
Increase,.....	15	7
Whole number December 1857,....	92	63

In addition to the care of these churches Mr. R. makes occasional tours for preaching, and the distribution of books along the neighboring coasts. His visits are eagerly welcomed by the people, and are attended with very remarkable success. One of these tours he describes as follows.—(*See Sailor's Magazine, Vol. 30, p. 38.*)



Mr. R. performs also an extensive work of visiting and tract distribution. His statistics of this work during three-quarters of the year 1857, are as follows:—Vessels visited, 784; houses visited, 126; tracts distributed, 144,000; religious pamphlets and books sold or given away, 258; copies of the Scriptures, 287. “One good,” he remarks, “connected with laboring among seamen, is, that they carry much of the word of God with them to other places.”

Numerous incidents of much interest attend the labors of this devoted servant of God. One aged man was taught at the meetings that Christ had come into the world to save sinners, and died soon after with a supporting faith in Him. A lady who had been blessed by his labors, sent to him a touching letter, saying, “I thank you for the precious moments we spent together, when I sat, like Mary at the feet of Christ, and learned the word of God of one he had sent.” A fisherman’s daughter, at service at a clergyman’s, having been brought to Christ, was so diligent in her efforts for others, that the clergyman said, “Kristine will soon make all my servants holy,” and attempted in vain to destroy her influence.

Of the field of labor presented by the people of those coasts, Mr. R. remarks:

“In Denmark and Norway the governments lay no obstacles in the way for evangelical preachers, but in Sweden there is persecution. There are not a few earnest and zealous servants of the Lord in Sweden. They labor with great success in the inner part of the land, but there are but few who care for the seamen. Those in the inner part of the land have so much to do, that they have no time to extend their labors to seamen. There is not, as far as I know, a single regenerate Christian laboring in the southern parts, or at least the southern coasts of Sweden. Zealous laborers are needed about Cimbritshavn Ystad, Tralleborg, Landskrona, Helsingborg, and all the coast. Besides these, there are several islands, which wait for the preaching of the Gospel. Norway appears now to awake from its long sleep. A former clergyman of the Established Church, has formed a free Apostolic Church at Skien. I can say that Norway on the whole, is in want of evangelical preachers. With the exception of these brethren, I do not think that there are many earnest servants of the Lord in Norway. Christiana, population 26,141, and Bergen, population 25,611 might be particular good stations for a missionary.

## NORWAY.

REV. FREDERICK L. RYMKER, *Missionary.*

In consequence of the urgent recommendations of Mr. Ryding; Mr. Rymker, (also a converted sailor,) was appointed in connection with his duties as an agent of the Baptist Publication Society, to labor for seamen in Norway.—(See an interesting letter from him in *Magazine*, vol. 30, p. 231.)

## SWEDEN.

GOTHLAND.—REV. J. LINDELIUS, *Missionary.*

This missionary is now in advanced age, and is able to do but little in the work which he has formerly prosecuted with much success. He still distri-

butes tracts and Testaments among the seamen as he has opportunity. The cause of Evangelical Christianity has made good progress upon the island, and hundreds of praying people are found here. The seamen, however, are still in much darkness, and greatly need an efficient missionary and colporteur to labor among them.

## FRANCE.

HAVRE.—REV. E. N. SAWTELL, D. D., *Chaplain.*

The importance of this port as a station for missionary labors for seamen, will be seen from the fact, that 5,454 vessels in the foreign trade arrived in the port of Havre in 1852, having 927,950 tons, manned by at least 56,000 seamen. The number engaged in the coasting trade is probably as great. Of the foreign vessels, 196 were American, measuring 153,170 tons, and having some 5,000 men.

Dr. Sawtell writes, that his labors were never more abundant, nor has he ever seen a fairer prospect of reaping an abundant harvest. His congregation has more than doubled in the last six months. A great increase of young men, French, German and Swiss, regularly attend; especially his Sabbath evening service. He has also an interesting Sabbath School and Bible class.

Instances of good resulting from his labors, are very frequent. A young English girl in his Bible class, gives pleasing evidence of a change of heart, and has united with the church. A Catholic lady, with whom he had frequent conversations on the subject of religion twenty years ago, being fond of debate, used his arguments *playfully* with her Catholic friends, and so often, that she became thoroughly convinced of their truth, and is now hopefully converted to God.

On one occasion when he had been sorely tried by pecuniary embarrassment, and he was tempted to doubt whether he ought not to leave Havre, Dr. S. heard one Sabbath morning a tap at the door, and on opening it, the following letter was handed him:

"DEAR BROTHER IN CHRIST,

"I hope the Lord will continue to bless your labors in this city. Sure I am that many of my countrymen will, in the great day of judgment, bless God that they ever came to Havre, and heard the Gospel from your lips. Many a good minister of Christ in that day will no doubt be surprised at the harvest gathered from seed, which he sowed in tears while on earth. And now, as there are some praying sailors in port, who believe that God hears and answers prayer, and who love to hold up the hands of their minister, will you have the kindness to appoint an extra prayer meeting this evening, immediately after divine service, and oblige many friends. May the Lord bless and prosper you in your great work in this dark land, and to God be all the glory.

(Signed)

"AN ENGLISH CAPTAIN."

"Had a voice from heaven" says he, "called audibly to me, I do not think it would have taken me more by surprise than did this letter. The prayer meeting was appointed, and a precious meeting it was."

The next day, I received another letter from a pastor in the south of France, giving a most interesting account of how the Lord was blessing the preaching of the word in his congregation, and of God's great mercies to him and to his aged parents, and finally concluded his letter by breaking forth into the most rapturous strains of praise and heartfelt gratitude to God, for having led him,



when a young man, a clerk in a counting-house, and a bigoted Roman Catholic, into the English and American chapel, where he heard that glorious Gospel preached, which led him first to Christ, then into the ministry. He closed his letter by subscribing himself, "Your most grateful and affectionate son in the faith,

LOUIS DELAMARE."

An important part of the duties of a seamen's chaplain, is the visitation of sick and disabled sailors in the hospitals. From 90 to 130 belonging to American ships, are annually received into the hospital at Havre. The scenes which are witnessed there, are often of deep interest.

"In one of my daily beats around the hospital, and among the cots appropriated to English and American sailors, I espied a young man with keen black eyes, and thin American visage, that particularly attracted my attention, and I approached his cot with more than usual interest. After a few preliminary inquiries, which moistened his eyes, I put, what to me is the question of questions,—*'Have you a pious, praying mother?'*" This was more than he could stand. He burst into tears, and seizing his coat, drew a number of letters from the pocket, saying, "Yes, indeed I have. Please read these letters received to-day, and you'll see how my mother prays for me." I tried to read them, but my heart and my eyes failed me. Such pleading, such tender solicitude, such beseeching his return to his father's house and to his mother's arms,—her only darling son. O, it was enough to melt the heart of a stone! When he saw the difficulty I had in reading them, having become more calm himself, he said, 'Well, lay down the letters, and I'll tell you all about it.'"

It was the old story. He had run away from home seven years before, and gone to sea, and though frequently in the United States, had never returned to visit his friends. He had been associated with the vilest characters, and been equally vile himself. In Australia, at the mines, he had at one time accumulated over seventeen hundred pounds sterling, which was squandered in sin. Dr. S. visited him almost daily, and labored to induce him to give his heart to God, and if restored to health to return to his parents.

"Upon the first point, he is serious, thoughtful, often tender, and melted to tears—listens with deep earnestness to all my counsels, reads carefully, and I hope prayerfully such tracts as I select for him. And as to the second point, he has given me his solemn pledge that if God spares him, he will return to his father's house."

A few days later this sailor was sufficiently recovered to write to his parents humbly confessing his faults, and promising to return to them immediately. How inadequate are all human words to portray the joy with which those heart-stricken parents will receive their long lost prodigal to their arms!

At a meeting recently held in the hospital, Dr. S. gave to the inmates some account of the great revival in New York, and of the many sailors who were converted. "It was" he writes, "a meeting of thrilling interest. Some four or five were deeply anxious. One poor fellow who was convalescent followed me out of the ward, and begged me to pray for him, saying, 'I have a good pious mother in Philadelphia. I ran away too, and now I want to get back home. I am determined to be a Christian, and return and be a blessing to my mother;—do pray for me!'"

In his visits to the hospitals, Dr. S. has had frequent observation of the extent to which brutal treatment of sailors is practised in American vessels, and of the wounds and maladies resulting from it. This treatment he has exposed and denounced at length in his letters during the year. Would that his words glowing with eloquent indignation, might arouse our whole country to the mag

nitude of the evil, and forbid the subject to rest, until some effective remedy be discovered and applied.

Large numbers of British seamen resort annually to the port of Havre, where they share equally with our own the labors of our chaplain. A portion of his support is therefore furnished him from England. The Board acknowledge gratefully the valuable services of Wm. Ferguson, Esq., Treasurer of the London Committee, in aiding to secure the sums thus provided. Their amount for the year was about \$730.

### MARSEILLES.

REV. M. JOHN MAYERS, *Chaplain.*

REV. ARTHUR CANNEY, *Assistant.*

MR. ——— MCGREGOR, *Superintendent S. Home.*

During the past year Mr. Canney, who had previously aided the Chaplain as a lay reader, has taken orders; and besides visiting the ships and hospital, has a weekly public service, with extemporaneous prayers and exhortations at the Sailor's Home. Three American sailors are reported as having been savingly benefited by the ministry of the word.

The Sailor's Home is an important agency for good in Marseilles. If there were no other evidence of this fact, the opposition it encounters from the wicked, would be sufficient. A petition of ten or twelve proprietors of crimping-houses and gin shops, was lately addressed to the Prefect of the Department, asking that the Home might be shut up, inasmuch as it injured their trade. The officer appointed to inquire into the matter, reported that the Home had been established to protect seamen in port from intoxication, and the evils practised in the low public houses, and he had therefore to regard the establishment as a public benefit! Of course little was effected against it by this movement.

The Home has recently been enlarged, and is now well kept by Mr. and Mrs. McGregor, the Superintendents. By far the larger number of its inmates are American sailors. Mr. Mayers makes honorable mention of our Consul, Col. Morgan, who sympathizes in his benevolent labors, and recommends all his seamen to the Home.

### NEW GRANADA.

ASPINWALL—PANAMA—REV. J. ROWELL, *Chaplain.*

Mr. Rowell has pursued his labors at the Isthmus during the year, amid many discouragements. One year ago he was anticipating the erection of a church and parsonage, but in consequence, partly, of the financial troubles, he has been disappointed. The Panama R. R. Co. have kindly furnished a room for a Chapel, and apartments for the Chaplain and his family, but these are insufficient for the wants of the station. The attendance upon the Chapel is comparatively small, and the want of room renders social meetings impossible.

Mr. R. has preached regularly at Aspinwall, except one Sabbath in each month, when he visited Panama and held service on board the U. S. sloop of war Decatur. The ordinary attendance on the Sabbath worship has been much as



heretofore, with some increase in the number of seamen. Visiting of the shipping, and the distribution of tracts and books, have been prosecuted as usual.

The fruits of these labors are briefly summed up thus. "Many have been brought under good influences, some turned back from vicious courses, some preserved from falling into them, many rebuked, warned, entreated &c. Considerable improvement in the observance of the Sabbath, is apparent. One encouraging fact is, that nearly all who attend public worship do so regularly. I see the same faces Sabbath after Sabbath, and the earnest attention my hearers give shows that they are really interested in the doctrines, and preachings of the Gospel. A blessed influence pervades our assemblies, and I hardly ever leave the chapel without tokens that good has been wrought there.

Most of the Testaments and other books distributed were in the Spanish language. I consider the circulation of these among the natives as one of the most hopeful features of my work."

Mrs. R. has taught a school, both on Sundays and week days, so far as her health has permitted, for the benefit of the children of the natives.

During the year the health of Mr. R and his family has been much impaired, and this, with the embarrassments of his work above named has determined him to remove from that Station. He expects, with the cordial approbation of the Board, to transfer his labors to San Francisco.

## BRAZIL.

### RIO JANEIRO.

Mr. W. R. Escher who was, last year, mentioned as conducting a Sunday School, and some other private efforts for seamen, has been compelled by his business to relinquish them, and at present we know of none now laboring in this cause at this Station.

Mr. E. sends us the following statistics as to the number of foreign vessels and seamen in port, derived from the Rio Price Current for 1855. This figures are the average of the monthly reports for the year.

NATION.	NO. OF VESSELS.	TONNAGE.	SEAMEN.
American.....	30	10,500	390.
British.....	22	8,800	330.
Hamburg.....	6	1,800	78.
Danish.....	8	2,400	104.
French.....	7	2,800	119.
Spanish.....	9	2,700	135.
Swedish.....	9	2,700	126.
Others.....	21	6,300	273.
Total.....	112	38,000	1,555.

This is exclusive of vessels of war. Mr. Escher thinks that the numbers for 1857, are probably one fourth larger than the above.

Here, then, is an average of about 800 English speaking seamen *constantly* in this port, and no one to break to them the bread of life! Mr. E. is very urgent in the expression of his desire that a Chaplain may be sent thither at once. The

known liberality of the government, would permit of the freest scope for his labors, and a man of the right character could not fail to have here a field of usefulness as large and as promising as he could desire. Shall a post of so much importance and interest be suffered by our churches to remain vacant?

## BUENOS AYRES.

Rev. W. Goodfellow, who was recently sent out by the Methodist Episcopal Missionary Society to this City, has accepted an appointment by this Board to look after the interests of seamen visiting there. We have as yet received no report from him.

## CHILI.

VALPARAISO { Rev. DAVID TRUMBULL, *Pastor.*  
D. VON KREVELIN, *Colporteur.*

Occasional incidents of much interest are reported by Mr. T., showing the beneficial results of labors for seamen. An officer of the British navy addressed a letter to him gratefully acknowledging the good received by him and others from his preaching, and concludes: "These will suffice to encourage you, when you see a poor wandering sailor looking in, for one evening, and to lead you to feel, that even in his case, the word shall not go forth void, but shall accomplish the work which God has prepared for it."

Mr. T. speaks favorably of several of the vessels of our navy which have touched at that port. Among them was the steamer Merrimac, Commodore Long, of which Rev. Mr. Davis is chaplain, whose services, he says, are very acceptable on board. "Besides worship on Sundays, daily prayers are held morning and evening. The Commodore is confined to his room by an injury on the knee, so his cabin door is set open; Capt. Hitchcock comes forward; the officers and crew stand near; the crew gather about; the band play some pieces of sacred music, and then the chaplain offers an extemporaneous prayer. On board they have also a large and well selected library purchased in Boston before the ship sailed."

Mr. Trumbull being occupied mostly with his duties as pastor of the Protestant church at V. he can not perform the labor which is requisite for the seamen in that port, and has repeatedly called for help. Accordingly the Board have recently appointed Mr. Dirck Von Krevelin, who was for a time supported as a colporteur by Mr. Trumbull's church, and was strongly recommended by him, to continue his aid in that capacity under the direction of Mr. T. It is expected that Mr. K., with his wife, will also keep a boarding-house for sailors in that port. Through the kindness of friends, principally of the Baptist churches, in Baltimore (of one of which Mr. and Mrs. K. were members) an outfit was provided for them, and a passage secured to the Isthmus.

The entire coast of Chili presents an inviting field for evangelical labor. "There are," says Mr. Trumbull, "from 700 to 1,000 English speaking seamen in this port all the time; then there are working men in this city, more in Santiago, more in Copiabo, seamen in Talcahuano, miners in Coronal and Coquimbo. And how are these wanderers to be reached? O? I wish you



could extend a helping hand to this country ; to our countrymen, and to Englishmen scattered in the length and breadth of it ; *especially in sending a chaplain to this port and another to Talcahuano.*" In another letter he says : " Before concluding this letter, I wish I might call the attention of Christians to TALCAHUANO, as a port needing a chaplain for seamen, and landmen as well. It is south of this. Many whalers resort there to refit every year. I was there in March last when thirty-six whalers were at anchor. Mr. Consul Crosby expressed great anxiety to have a minister come there. Several said they were willing to aid in supporting him, if one should come."

## PERU.

### CALLAO AND THE CHINCHA ISLANDS.

This station is one of the greatest importance on the S. American coast. From 50 to 150 American vessels are constantly at the Islands loading with guano, and containing often 1,500 men at one time. These lie here for their cargoes from 60 to 120 days, as each has to wait its turn for a load. Not unfrequently there will be 30 to 50 ladies in the fleet, the wives of officers. For the spiritual wants of all these souls there is no provision whatever on the ground. Occasionally a vessel which has a pious captain will have worship on Sabbaths, and invite the crews of the other vessels to be present.

Earnest appeals continue to be received for the appointment of a chaplain to this station. An English gentleman residing at Callao called a few months since at the office of the Society, to present his request in person. Having long waited in vain for an appointment to be made by them, and 'seeing no immediate prospect of it, he proposed visiting Great Britain in hopes of awakening the attention of the British Christians to the subject. We have not heard the result.

The Board are pained to be unable, in the present state of their funds, to respond to these calls, alike so urgent and so interesting.

## SANDWICH ISLANDS.

### HONOLULU.—Rev. S. C. DAMON, *Chaplain.*

In consequence of the severe and long protracted labors in this great central resort of the North Pacific shipping, the health of Mr. D. became so impaired as to compel him to a few weeks absence in the early part of the year. He made a tour to the other islands of the group, and communicated much interesting information respecting the missions, and the state of the people generally.

With this exception the work of the station has been carried forward with its usual vigor. Though not many particulars have been communicated, it is believed that few posts of Christian labor can be named more important than this. The annual visits of the whaling fleet to these islands bring thither many hundreds of souls who, but for the efforts of our chaplains, would be altogether exiles from the means of grace, and the blessings of Christianity.

The Sailor's Home has been conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Thrum "with the most gratifying success." A small debt remained still against the building, but measures are in operation which promise its discharge very soon.

LAHAINA.—REV. S. E. BISHOP, *Chaplain*.

Mr. B. wrote in Nov.: "The religious interest among us is not materially different from the past. I have a sterile field in the resident population of Lahaina. I hope my labors have not been without effect. But, as elsewhere, the earnest plain exhibition of humbling gospel truth is not welcome to all.

There are several interesting young men in the hospital, who make regular drafts on my library, and my newspaper basket. Ships are expected shortly, which will set us all at work again."

At a later date he says, "seventy-five ships have visited us the past season, and a few still remain. My hands and heart have been full." Several incidents of the work have been mentioned by him of the usual interest.

HILO.—REV. T. COAN, *Pastor*.

Hilo is situated on the N. E. coast of Hawaii, the largest island of the group. It was made a port of entry about three years ago, since which the number of vessels and seamen resorting thither has been much increased.

Application was made to this Society last summer for the appointment of a chaplain to this port.

The embarrassed state of their treasury have rendered the Board unable to comply with this call.

## MICRONESIAN ISLANDS.

*Missionaries, A. B. C. F. M.*

A chapel for seamen, originally given to this Society by a sea captain, on the south side of Ascension Island, at Ronkiti, is occupied by Rev. Mr. Sturges, who, in addition to his work for the natives, does what is practicable in behalf of sailors visiting there.

Rev. Dr. Gulick resides on the Eastern part of the island, near the Ponatik or Middle Harbor so called.—(See letter from him in Magazine, vol. 29, p. 340.)

The number of vessels visiting the islands from 1852 to 1857, was as follows:—

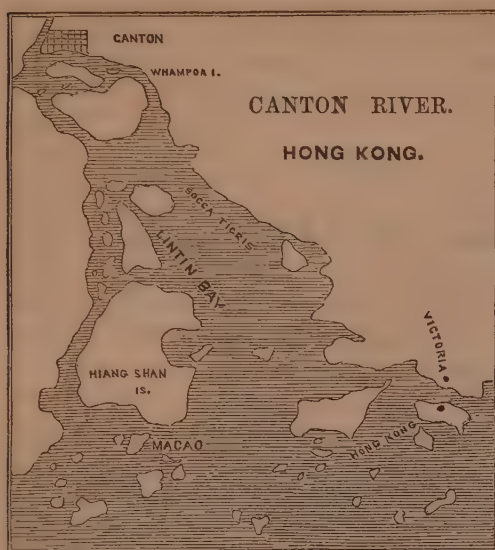
Whalers.....	135	Steamer.....	1
Traders.....	7	Missionary vessel.....	1
Merchantmen.....	2		
Total.....			146

## CHINA.

HONG KONG.—REV. J. C. BEECHER, *Chaplain*.

In our last Annual Report an account was given of the breaking up of the station at Canton in consequence of the Anglo-Chinese war, in which the floating Bethel at Whampoa was burnt. Mr. B. removed his family to Hong Kong, and set himself forthwith to prosecute the work of his chaplaincy at that place.





Hong Kong is an island lying at the entrance of the broad estuary which constitutes the Canton river, and near to the northern shore. It came into the possession of the British by treaty with China in 1843. Its roadstead is very capacious, and constitutes, during the war, the chief resort of ships engaged in the Canton trade, as well as the war fleet on duty in those waters.

Securing temporary accommodations for his family, Mr. B. first arranged to commence religious services in the sailor quarter of the town, which he describes as

"a horrible locality—in which every other house is a shop at the bottom; a brothel up stairs, while the intermediate buildings is brothel altogether. In this locality stands a chapel, erected by the London Mission for the use of the Chinese; and it struck me that possibly a few of the boarding-house keepers, who also inhabit that locality, might be persuaded to attend public worship and bring with them some of the sailors who on the Sabbath come ashore. Dr. Legge kindly acceded to my request for permission to use the chapel, and I commenced with a congregation of eight which was increased to sixty with prospect of further increase. There is some interest among the boarding-house keepers, and they are constant attentive hearers."

He next undertook the task of building a seamen's chapel in a more eligible situation, to be under his control. In this effort he received much encouragement from the residents of the place, and a handsome subscription in aid of the requisite funds. It was his intention at first to locate the chapel on shore, but the majority of subscribers preferred a floating one. The building was completed in November at an expense of about \$7,000, the whole of which it is expected will be ultimately procured at that station. It contains, in addition to the chapel, apartments for the residence of the chaplain, with reading room, library, &c.

The value of the Bethel which was burnt at Whampoa has been included by the English in their claims for indemnification upon the Chinese authorities, and it is presumed will be recovered from them.

The new Bethel being finished, which Mr B. pronounces "a creditable thing of the kind," he says:

"The attendance is good, better than I anticipated. And inasmuch as the captains of ships in the harbor are gradually becoming persuaded to allow what liberty is given upon week days, and refuse it totally upon Sabbath, except to attend service, the chapel

may not only prove beneficial to the sailors, but conduce also to the good order of the colony on the Sabbath."—(See *Mr. B.'s letters in Magazine.*)

SHANGHAI.—Mr. A. L. FREEMAN.

(See an interesting letter from Mr. F. in *Magazine*, vol. 30, p. 72.)

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## DOMESTIC OPERATIONS.

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### NEW YORK.

Rev. OLA HELLAND, *Norwegian Missionary.*

Capt. DANIEL TRACY, *Sup't. of Sailor's Home.*

Mr. ALBRO LYONS, *Sup't. of Colored S. Home.*

Mr. Helland has continued his labors in the joint employ of the A. S. F. and N. York P. Society, as a missionary among the Scandinavians who resort hither, and his work has shared in those special blessings of God's Spirit which have been so remarkably bestowed in this year of revival. He has preached regularly in Norwegian at the Mariner's Church, corner of Catherine and Madison Streets, on the Sabbath afternoon, and held a Norwegian prayer meeting in the week, besides abundant labors in visiting, distributing books, tracts, &c. More than twenty conversions are reported by him among his countrymen during the year, not including a considerable number who professed a similar experience, but left port ere sufficient time had elapsed to test its reality.

Mr. H. closes this Spring his very useful and acceptable labors in this city, expecting to engage in the missionary work among the Scandinavian population in our Western States. We can not doubt that much good will be accomplished by him in that important field.

THE SAILOR'S HOME has continued as heretofore under the superintendence of Capt. Tracy. Owing in great measure to the depressed state of the shipping business and the comparative scarcity of seamen in this port, it has had fewer boarders than in some former years. In other respects, the Home has enjoyed its usual prosperity. Not a few have, we trust, found it the birth-place of their souls for heaven.

The number of boarders in the Home during the year, has been 2,257, making the aggregate of 52,353 since its establishment. 172 shipwrecked and destitute have the past year received aid.

Capt. Tracy's lease expired on the 1st of May, and the Board bear cheerful testimony to the fidelity and ability with which he has kept the Institution for the past five years. He will be succeeded by Captains E. Richardson and E. Walford, in a joint occupancy of the Home. The building and furniture are being put in good repair; and it is confidently hoped, that under their administration it will be found worthy of its long established reputation, and constitute a true Home for hundreds of mariners visiting our port.

The COLORED SAILOR'S HOME, kept by Mr. Lyons, has been sustained under



embarrassments similar to those already spoken of. The number of its boarders has been 245, of whom 49 were objects of charity to the amount of \$370.04. The Board appropriate \$300 annually, for the aid of this worthy establishment.

The SAILOR'S MAGAZINE has had a regular circulation of 8,000 copies monthly. Owing to a change in the mode of distribution, dispensing for the most part with agencies, a saving of some 500 copies has been effected, without any considerable diminution of paying subscribers.

Since January, the "Life Boat," a little sheet of four pages, designed for Sabbath Schools and promiscuous circulation, has been published each month at a trifling expense. We have pleasing evidence of its acceptableness, so far as it is known, and hope that it will aid in imparting an interest to the cause, and securing increased collections, especially from the children.

#### PORTLAND.

Rev. SAMUEL H. MERRILL, *Chaplain.*

Capt. JOHN DICK, *Sup't. of Sailor's Home.*

Mr. Merrill reports fourteen persons as giving evidence of conversion during the past year, all but two of whom were sailors. One who was converted eighteen months ago, has made several voyages since to the West Indies, and has returned each time a wiser and stronger Christian. At the first prayer meeting after his last voyage, almost the whole crew that sailed with him were found kneeling at his side in prayer. The captain testified, that in a long experience at sea, he had never sailed with such a crew before,—so well behaved, obedient and efficient. One of them, an "old Salt," said, he had never been to sea before where they had prayer in the fore-castle, and he wanted this religion." |

Since the death of Capt. Bailey in May, 1857, the Sailor's Home has been kept by Capt. John Dick. The number of boarders in the year past, was 771, of whom 41 received charitable assistance.

A "Bethel Flag Circle" of twenty ladies meets weekly, and a similar one of younger ladies once a fortnight, the avails of whose work are appropriated to the Bethel. Still another association of nearly 100, pay each \$1 per annum. The balance of its support, besides other donations from friends of the cause in the city, is paid by this Society from funds contributed to our treasury from Maine.

#### PROVIDENCE.

Rev. H. FULTON, *Missionary.*

The labors of Mr. F. were continued at Providence during four months only of the last Summer. Three or four seamen were mentioned by him as savingly benefited by those labors.

#### SAN FRANCISCO.

Mention was made in our last Report of the very interesting work performed by Rev. G. S. Davis in this port. He was obliged shortly after to relinquish this work for want of support; and the little chapel which he had caused to

be erected, has since, for the most part stood empty, while nearly twenty thousand seamen visiting that port annually, were without any suitable provision for their spiritual wants.

In these circumstances a communication was addressed to this Society by two of the resident clergymen of that city, stating that Mr. Davis was ready to transfer to us the occupancy of the chapel, and urging the appointment of a laborer there. It was intimated that something might be realized from the contributions of the citizens in aid of this object, and in a few years it might probably become entirely self-supporting.

The Board have accordingly accepted the charge of the chapel, in trust, and expect that Mr Rowell, who has been stationed at the Isthmus, will enter upon his labors in this most inviting field early in the season.

The Sailor's Home in San Francisco, kept by Mr. F. Hennell, under the care of the Ladies S. F. Society, is in very successful operation, and is doing a good work for seamen.

## THE SOUTHERN STATES.

Rev. A. MCGLASHAN, *District Secretary for the South.*

For many years the American Seamen's Friend Society have sustained a Bethel Ship in Mobile Bay, and have occasionally rendered temporary aid to several other ports. Dr. Parker retired from his charge of the former last fall.

In view of the extensive commerce of several of the Southern ports, particularly Mobile and New Orleans, and of the oft repeated and pressing calls for help in maintaining evangelical efforts for seamen there, the Board appointed Mr. McGlashan, who has long labored in the cause at Mobile, to be a Secretary of the Society for the Southern States, in the hope of awakening an interest in that portion of our country, and of obtaining from it, in part at least, the means for the prosecution of the work in those ports. The fact that the great majority of the seamen visiting them are from the North, makes it peculiarly proper that this Society should co-operate in efforts to provide for them the means of grace during their sojourn there.

Mr. McG's. report, though embracing notices of operations not under the direction of this Society, is most conveniently presented as a whole, excepting Alexandria, Richmond, Norfolk, Wilmington and Charleston, which are noticed hereafter in their proper place.

GALVESTON, April 23, 1858.

### *Report of the Southern Secretary of the American Seamen's Friend Society.*

There are, perhaps, more than one hundred and fifty thousand seamen and boatmen who throng our Southern ports every year. The most of these men come and go again without hearing the Gospel,—they are uncared for, except by those who are willing to corrupt and destroy them for the sake of gain. It is the object of our efforts, with the blessing of God, to shield them from these corrupting influences, and to provide the Gospel for them in those ports where it is most needed.

I have not, as yet, been able to visit all the ports of the South, but will give a brief outline of some of them.



## SAVANNAH, GEO.

I visited this city in January, and found the Bethel Church closed. Rev. T. L. Hutchings, the chaplain, from loss of voice was unable to preach. On account of ill-health and the growing infirmities of age, he will probably soon resign. I left \$110, of the amount that I raised in Savannah, to aid the friends of the cause there to procure a young man of the right stamp to fill that important post. Savannah is a city of growing commercial importance, as you will see by the following letter from the Hon. John Boston, collector of that port.

COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, *Savannah 23d March, 1858.*

DEAR SIR,

The number of vessels propelled by steam and sails, that entered into this port during the year ending the 31st December, 1857, (the abstracts of the present quarter not being made up,) was 996, and the tonnage of the same was 360,682. The number of seamen, was 12,237. Many vessels arrive and depart without entering or clearing, having no foreign goods on board, and therefore no estimate can be arrived at, as to their number, tonnage, or number of seamen. The imports for the same period, amounted to \$871,469—and the exports amounted to \$7,974,577. We have a Seaman's Home under the direction of the ladies,—a Mariner's Church, under the care of Rev. T. L. Hutchings, pastor, and supported by the Port Society of Savannah.

Very respectfully, your obed't servant,

JOHN BOSTON. *Collector.*

## APALACHICOLA.

This port should not be overlooked. Its exports of cotton are large, and a large number of boatmen and sailors are required to do the business of commerce. A chaplain should be stationed here to look after the temporal interests of these river and ocean men; to tell them the story of the Cross, and to point them to Christ, whose blood cleanseth from all sin.

## PENSACOLA AND MILTON, FA.

These two ports are not far apart. I intend to visit them at an early day, and see what provision can be made for the seamen and boatmen. The Montgomery and Pensacola Railroad is rapidly advancing to completion, which will add much to the commercial importance of the latter place.

## MOBILE.

More than 20,000 seamen and boatmen are required to bring and to take away the cotton and lumber which pass through this port. Last financial year to Sept. 1st, the cotton alone that was exported from Mobile, was valued at \$32,308,804 55. When the Railroads now being built are completed, the imports and exports will be greatly increased, and the number of seamen required proportionately increased.

There is a Sailor's Home and a Bethel Church in Mobile. The Home is old and too small for the place, and the Bethel Church is badly located. A new Home and Bethel Church are greatly needed. The Bethel Society own a large and desirable lot for the purpose; and a small portion of the funds has been raised, of which Thomas Porteous, Esq. gave \$1,000. This good beginning should encourage vigorous efforts till a sufficient amount is raised.

Mr. Henry Parsons, the Superintendent of the Sailor's Home, has exerted himself for the temporal good of seamen. Average number of boarders in the Home, about 40.

The Ladies' Bethel Society engaged the services of Rev. W. F. McRae, as chaplain to seamen in Mobile. His useful labors have been somewhat interrupted by sickness in his family.

The Bethel and Hospital Ship in Mobile Bay belonging to your Society, is in good repair. The season, however, was too far advanced to engage the services of a Physician and Chaplain for the present year. Capt. Wm. Frears, who has been chief nurse on the ship for four years past, received a number of patients on board, and treated them successfully, and distributed tracts and Bibles among seamen in the Bay.

I spent one Sabbath there, and preached to a very attentive congregation of seamen. We hope by the blessing of God to raise sufficient funds to enable us to place a good Physician and Chaplain on that noble Bethel Ship, for the benefit of that large fleet of merchant ships. Several hundreds of sick sailors have been successfully treated there within the last five years, and many souls, we trust, have there been led to Christ. The enterprise is expensive, but the expense is light when compared to the good accomplished.

## NEW ORLEANS.

In this great commercial city, there are annually some fifty thousand boatmen and sailors, exposed to grog-shops and "land sharks" of the worst kind. I was delighted to find that the last wing of the Sailor's Home had been finished and well furnished a few months since.

The "Home" is a substantial brick building, and will accommodate 250 sailors at one time. The spacious dining-room is 86 by 36 feet, and all parts of the building well arranged. The Report of this Institution by J. W. Stanton, Esq., is worthy of a place in the columns of the best periodicals in our country. "New Orleans may now boast of a Sailor's Home, better than elsewhere found in the United States. Indeed, it is believed to be excelled but by one in the world—that at Liverpool, erected under the countenance and patronage of the Royal Family, aided by the powerful and wealthy nobility of the British Empire."

The Superintendent, Mr. F. Rickerts, has been industrious and faithful in guarding the interests of the Home, aided by his excellent wife. The land and building cost, say \$53,000, the furnishing about \$12,000 more, besides about 5,000 due the Superintendent, which last two items are not yet paid for, leaving a debt of \$17,000. Two offices and a clothing store under the East wing, rent for nearly a thousand dollars. When the debt is paid, the Home will be self-supporting.

The number of boarders last year, although the building was unfinished, was 1,453. The income for board for the year ending this month, was \$8,787 40; and board given to shipwrecked and destitute sailors, amounting to \$123. The income for the last month, was \$1,200, quite equalling the outgo. All this is encouraging, but there is no Bethel Church in this part of the city where most of these men congregate. I engaged the services of the Rev. R. S. McAllister, a young man of talent and education to conduct the services at the Home, and to preach to seamen in that part of the city. A Bethel Church should be built at once near the "Home." In the lower part of the city there is a church, opposite the United States' Mint, where seamen are invited to worship, and the middle tier of pews is appropriated to their use. The Rector, Rev. Amos D. McCoy, is a talented and zealous man. His whole heart is in the good work.

The Hon. Mr. Hatch, Collector of the Port of New Orleans, and his gentlemanly deputy, have furnished me with interesting statistics in regard to the commerce and Custom-house, &c.

## GALVESTON.

GALVESTON, is a thriving city. It is the principal port of Texas, and notwithstanding the partial failure of crops last year, she exported over \$5,000,000. A large number of vessels are enrolled in this district. About 350 steamers and sailing vessels trade with this port, and about 4,000 men are employed in them. We contemplate making an effort to establish a Sailor's Home here, which is greatly needed.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

ALEXANDER McGLASHAN.

## AUXILIARY &amp; BRANCH SOCIETIES.

The American Seamen's Friend Society has hitherto differed from several of our public benevolent societies, having a *national* name, in that it has not, like them, embraced as a constituent part of itself, the various local societies which co-operate in the same cause. Each has been not only independent, but with one or two exceptions dissociated from the rest, having though friendly, neither unity nor concert of action. The result has been exceedingly unfavorable, not only from the ordinary consequences of a want of unity, but because of the impression made thereby on the public mind, of the relative importance of the cause. To a great extent the annual receipts of a society are



taken as an exponent of its wants. A local society operating in a single port, appealing to the community for \$5,000 per annum for seamen, gives the impression through that community that this sum is all that is needed for that cause, and that its importance, compared with a missionary work, which calls for \$300,000 per annum, is small in the ratios of these demands. In the same way the American S. F. Society has suffered in the public estimation. When soliciting aid from churches the inquiry is often made as to the amount of our receipts and expenditures, and this being learned the application is refused because the object is so small. "We can not," it is said, "contribute to every good cause, we must aid the *more important ones*, and leave the remainder to others."

From these and other considerations it has long been felt to be desirable to secure a greater unity between the various societies laboring in this cause; not to interfere with the independence of any, but while each, like the various State and County Missionary, Bible and Tract Societies, performs its own work in its own way, they should still, like harmonious members of the same body, be associated in one rational organization, which should stand before the Christian public as a representative of THE SEAMEN'S CAUSE; a visible exponent of its importance, and a successful applicant for that share in its regard and its support which the moral interests connected with the SHIPPING AND COMMERCE OF THE GLOBE deservedly claim.

During the past year something has been done to effect this object, though not all that is desirable. Agreements have been made with the Penn. S. F. Society, the A. Bethel Society and the Western S. F. Society, which with those previously existing with the Boston S. F. Society and the N. Y. Port Society, enable us to present the cause to day under both a real and visible unity, greater than has ever been recorded before. It is hoped that this unity will be extended in the future, and serve as well to increase the efficiency of each individual society as to promote the prosperity and success of our common cause.

We subjoin a brief report of each of these associate societies for the present year.

### 1. BOSTON SEAMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.

REV. ELIJAH KELLOGG, *Chaplain.*

JOHN O. CHANY, *Sup't. of Sailor's Home.*

This Society by its Constitution is a "Branch of the American Society." It sustains a Chapel and a Sailor's Home in the port of Boston. During the year the blessing of God has attended the labors of the efficient chaplain of the Mariner's Church, and the friends of the cause have occasion to rejoice at what God has wrought. In connection with the unusual religious awakening in the city of Boston, the Mariner's Church has shared in the blessing. A daily prayer meeting has been attended, at which many seamen have testified of the power of the Gospel in calming that "tempest of the soul" which a conviction of sin had produced. At these morning and evening prayer meetings, the chaplain has been greatly encouraged by the presence of young men from the city churches. The sympathy thus expressed, has great-

ly aided and encouraged the friends of the cause, who have hitherto sustained the meetings with very little help from the other churches. During the year, the congregation and Sabbath School have considerably increased; and though not many have been added to the church, it is hoped that an unusual number have been gathered into the flock of the Good Shepherd, and have gone forth to exert a Christian influence in the world.

At the Sailor's Home, there have been 2,493 boarders during the year, making in all, 31,806 since its establishment in 1836. 81 shipwrecked and destitute seamen have been helped, at an expense in board and clothing of \$655, 53.

Rev. S. W. Hanks, who acts as Corresponding Secretary of the Boston Society, and District Secretary of the American Society, has presented the cause to 76 different congregations during the year, having preached and lectured 119 times. His field of labor has been in Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire. He has corresponded extensively with the pastors of churches and attended Conferences, and has found every where a deep sympathy with the cause which he represents. In addition to the contributions in money and clothing, and bedding for the Home, 532,000 pages of reading matter have been forwarded for distribution among seamen.—(*See Sailor's Magazine for July last.*)

## 2. THE SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE GOSPEL AMONG SEAMEN IN THE PORT OF NEW YORK.

REV. CHARLES J. JONES, *Pastor, Mariner's Church.*

REV. OEA HELLAND, *Norwegian Missionary.*

MR. JOSEPH H. GARDNER, *Missionary.*

MR. L. P. HUBBARD, *Agent.*

This Society is classified here, not because it is in any sense subordinate to the American Seamen's Friend Society, but because in view of the importance of the work it is performing in this port, and of a considerable debt yet resting upon it from the purchase of the Mariner's Church, it is aided by the latter, receiving annually an amount equal to one-half of our collections for the cause, in this city and Brooklyn. The appropriation to that Society of so considerable a sum, makes it proper that some notice of its operations should appear in our Report.

The Mariner's Church, corner of Catherine and Madison Streets, has during the year shared largely in the divine blessing. Mr. Jones reports the remarkable fact, that "at each of the twenty-five communion seasons enjoyed by the church since its organization, (March 1856,) we have received from 3 to 60 persons to membership. Of these 119 were seamen, and more than three-fourths were received on profession. Since April, 1857, 129 have been added on profession, and 14 by certificate. The present membership is 295 persons."

Three services for preaching have been held on the Sabbath, one of them in Norwegian, besides morning and afternoon prayer meetings, and the Sabbath school, and a Bible class for colored seamen. Several industrious assistants visit the sailor boarding-houses, and invite as many as they meet to attend. More than 3,600 seamen are reported to have been brought to the sanctuary



by this means during the year, who otherwise would probably not have come. The forenoon of every week day is devoted by the pastor to the reception of calls from sailors for religious conversation and prayer.

He reports 964 such visits made him during the year, besides some hundreds at his house; 558 of the seamen were temperance men, and 89 signed the pledge there. Three regular weekly prayer meetings are held, one in Norwegian; also a teacher's meeting, on Saturday evening.

Mr. Gardner has been laboring as far as practicable among the colored seamen of this port. He visits them at their boarding-houses, and holds meetings at the Colored Home and elsewhere, as he has opportunity.

Mr. Hubbard, who has labored in this field nearly a quarter of a century, is still active both as a financial agent, and Missionary of the Society.

During a part of the year, service was held in the Reading Room of the Church on Sabbath morning, in Chinese, for the benefit of Chinese sailors and others in port. Rev. Dr. McCartee, formerly missionary to China, officiated.

Persons of nearly sixty different nations, have here been brought to the knowledge of Christ in two years past.

### 3. PENNSYLVANIA SEAMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.

Rev. GEO. HUGHES, *Cor. Sec. and Dist. Sec. of A. S. F. Society.*

THOMAS MCGUIRE, *Superintendent of Sailor's Home.*

Rev. Mr. May, who had served as Corresponding Secretary of this Society for seven years past, relinquished this service in consequence of advanced age, and has been succeeded by Rev. Mr. Hughes, late of Trenton, N. J.

About 800 seamen have boarded at the Home the past year, of whom more than fifty were destitute, and received charitable aid.

The monthly returns made to the Board by the Superintendent, contain many points of interest, showing that the results crowning our efforts in this direction, are in the highest sense remunerative—and encourage to more liberal outlays, and greater energy.

“One month we have this testimony—‘Some of the pious seamen have returned, giving strong proof of their faithfulness, and bringing their sheaves with them. One sailor has devoted one-tenth of his earnings to the cause of his master.’ Another report says: ‘Quite an interest is manifested by the boarders in attending the Bethels; they turn out in large numbers.’

Again the Superintendent reports: ‘One who went out from *The Home* without hope, has returned filled with hope of immortality, and others are strongly impressed with the necessity of attending to this matter.

The Report of October last, is one of pleasant, yet mournful interest. It states, ‘That five young men of promise took quarters at *The Home*; the Superintendent felt much interest in them, and conversed with them personally about spiritual things. He persuaded them to sign the Temperance pledge, four of whom kept it. The other, through the instrumentality of a drunken captain, yielded to temptation, and lost his life as the consequence. He shipped as mate with this drunken captain. Through bad management, the vessel was detained a long time in the stream, and the parties being drunk most of the time, the mate fell over board, and was drowned.’ How lamentable such a fall! and what cause to thank God and take courage, when we find four out of five rescued from such an appalling doom! In February, the Superintendent reported the month past ‘as a busy one.’ He had fifty of the crew of the U. S. Frigate Congress, just from the Mediterranean station under his charge; which, in addition to others, made his family number about 100. And yet good order reigned. The men from ‘*The Congress*,’ deposited with him \$10,000 of their earnings, in silver, which were thus saved from the ‘land-sharks,’ and devoted to their dependent families and friends. Numbers from other houses were heard to say: “*We wish we had*

come to THE HOME." Three of the men came to Mr. McGuire, at the Navy Yard, and begged him to take care of their money—saying: "We know if we take it where we board, we shall lose it all, and soon be shipped again. Take care of it for us, and if ever we come to Philadelphia again, *we will steer clear of the grog-shops, and bring to at THE HOME.*" He did so. They went away apparently with light hearts, and that evening paid their bills, and moved to *The Home*. The money was sent home to their friends, and they shipped in a short time for Europe.

The examples of the beneficial influence of *The Home* might be greatly multiplied, but we will forbear, after referring to two more facts, which we deem worthy of permanent record. A young sailor, a short time ago, entered *The Home*, wicked and careless about religious matters. He was brought under divine influence, converted, and is now successfully laboring as a Missionary in the West, under the auspices of the American Sunday School Union.

Mr. McGuire recently received a letter from a sailor, who boarded at *The Home* last fall. He was, to all appearances an unpromising man, furnishing little ground to hope that he would ever be converted. He now writes: 'That he is thankful to Mrs. McGuire for her kindness to him, and the good advice which he received—that he had faithfully read the good books presented to him on leaving *The Home*, and that he is now rejoicing in the Lord!'

These facts speak powerfully respecting the vast moral and religious influence of the Sailor's Home, showing, that the effects are not transitory, but permanent—following the mariner when far away upon the sea."

Mr. Hughes labored very actively and successfully in securing the outfit of Mr. Krevelin, whom the parent Society has sent to Valparaiso. The amount necessary, was contributed chiefly by the churches in Baltimore, and farewell meetings were held there and in Philadelphia, which it is believed awakened a new interest in the cause.

In respect to their connection with the American Seamen's Friend Society, the Board of the Pennsylvania Society remark:

"The relations of the Pennsylvania Seamen's Friend Society to the American Seamen's Friend Society, have from the first, been of the most fraternal character. And it has been the design of your Board to co-operate with that noble Institution, in the prosecution of its benevolent plans, in relation to seamen in the various ports of our world. They have been anxious so to increase their resources, that they may do something worthy of Philadelphia and the '*Keystone State*,' in connection with that society, in the work of founding Bethels, establishing Homes, and commissioning faithful Chaplains and Colporteurs. They are well persuaded that the Pennsylvania Society is not measuring up to the lofty standard which it should adopt for its government, *in simply raising an amount of money annually, sufficient to sustain our Home in this port.* It becomes us to take a higher stand-point of vision—to conceive broader plans—and to give a wider range to our benevolent action. We believe that interest enough can be awakened among our enterprising merchants and citizens generally, to greatly augment our annual receipts—so that we may remit to the American Society an amount worthy of our commercial position. And we are the more impressed with the importance of this view of the subject, when we consider that the American Seamen's Friend Society is receiving constantly the most importunate appeals from distant ports for the appointment of chaplains, *to which appeals it is unable to respond!*

Most inviting doors are now thrown open to us in every direction. Shall Pennsylvania, and Delaware, and Maryland, and New Jersey turn a deaf ear to those calls? We hope not."

#### 4. THE AMERICAN BETHEL SOCIETY.

Rev. TIMOTHY STILLMAN, *Cor. Sec'y. and Dist. Sec'y. A. S. F. Society.*

Rev. J. W. ELLIOTT, *Joint District Sec'y of the two Societies.*

The twenty-second annual meeting of the American Bethel Society was held in the Lafayette Street Presbyterian church in the City of Buffalo on Wednesday April 7th. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Hickok of Union College.

After the transaction of the business of the meeting, the election of officers, &c., the Reports of the Treasurer and of the Executive Committee were read, accepted and adopted.

The Report of the Executive Committee recited briefly the history of the Society from its organization, showing the rapidity with which the inland commerce of our country has increased, as its natural resources have been developed, until its value is now to be counted by hundreds of millions.

The Report made special mention of the labors of Rev. Philander Griffin, chaplain at Buffalo, who is enjoying at the present time in common with all the other evangelical churches of the city, a refreshing from on high, in which a large number of Sailors and Boatmen with their families, have entered the service of Christ.

The Sabbath School of the Bethel Church reports one hundred and fifty scholars to whom faithful teachers are unfolding the Scriptures and endeavouring to make known the way of life.

The Report also made mention of twelve Missionaries on the Erie Canal and its tributaries, from all of whom encouraging reports had been received, which furnishes unmistakable evidence that God who is rich in mercy looks with favor on the efforts to elevate and improve the watermen. Special mention was made of the labors of Dea. Johnson on the Delaware and Hudson Canal.

In closing, the Report revealed the fact that considerable progress had been made during the year in the work of consolidating the several fractions into which the field has heretofore been necessarily divided.

The American Seamen's Friend Society and the American Bethel Society have formed an alliance from which much good is anticipated,—at least it is confidently expected that this feeling which seems to be spreading in favor of consolidating our religious societies, which now held towards each other an affiliating relation, will accept this movement, and cheerfully cooperate in carrying forward our plans to success.

These two Societies have united in the appointment of Rev. J. W. Elliot as a district Secretary, representing the interests of both, in Central New York, and earnestly commend him to the prayers, the sympathies and cooperation of all friends of the Sailor and Boatman. Deacon David Dickey of Rochester, who entered the service of the American Bethel Society in 1845, and who the past year has been providentially hindered from devoting more than a small portion of his time to this, will with the opening season resume his position in Western New York where he is so favorably known and so universally beloved, and it is confidently believed that with these helps and others which providence from time to time may furnish, we shall enter the field with the opening season under brighter prospects than ever before. May God grant that we find favor with his people.

##### 5. THE WESTERN SEAMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.

REV. J. R. LEONARD, *Cor. Secretary.*

REV. P. BOUGHTON, *Financial do.*

This Society was formerly an off shoot of the American Bethel Society, hav-



ing its centre of operations at Cleveland. Its Annual Report has not come to hand. It sustains chaplains at Cleveland, Sandusky, Toledo and Cincinnati in Ohio, also at Pittsburgh, Chicago, and St. Louis, with a number of colporteur missionaries on the rivers and canals of the Western States.

## INDEPENDENT SOCIETIES.

[We are obliged to defer our notice of these Societies to a subsequent No. of the Magazine.]

### FINANCES.

The receipts of the American S. F. Society for the past year from all sources were.....\$25,187 27  
 Expenditures.....\$28,173 17  
 The receipts last year were.....\$22,812 25\*  
 Showing an advance during the year of.....\$ 2,375 02

Full returns of the receipts of our associate Societies have not yet been received. The aggregate amount contributed for the cause in this country is about \$100,000 per annum.

### CONCLUSION.

Such is a detail of the labors of the year in behalf of Seamen. It is impossible to sum up their results. Much has been done—many an earnest word spoken, many a truth sent out on the printed page, many a cup of cold water given to some poor, sick, homeless one in the name of Christ, which has had no record on earth. Many a seed has been sown which may spring up and yield its blossoms and fruits in coming years;—perhaps fountains of influence opened which will send out their life-giving streams to the end of time. It is enough for us to know that “the sea is His”—not merely its mighty waters, but the vastly greater wealth of souls, who are in training upon it for Eternity, and that no item of faith, of prayer or toil which has entered into that training shall fail of a final recognition and reward.

We are encouraged anew to feel that the work for seamen which has now completed its thirtieth year is the *work of God*. That a work of such difficulty and so many obstacles,—one which cannot, in the nature of things, exhibit such splendid visible and permanent achievements, as some others, to stimulate the interest of the public, and draw forth their gifts,—a work which is so preeminently a work of *faith* should still be permitted to hold on its way,—and that the blessing of the Holy Spirit should so largely have attended it to the conversion of souls, are to us cheering evidences that God is with us, and that the cause is one dear to the Saviour's heart. Herein is our confidence in its ultimate triumph. Though commerce may be in great measure indifferent to the spiritual wants of the sailor, and though greed and lust may conspire to prolong his degradation that they may live upon his vices, yet if it have its seat in the divine sympathies, and its support in divine power and promise, we may be assured that the cause shall prosper. We labor not in it in vain—we spend not our strength for nought.

\* Exclusive of Boston S. F. S.

We are impelled also to a deep conviction that a work so important, and so favored of Heaven should be greatly enlarged, and to that end should share far more liberally in the regard and the benefactions of God's people. For a whole year past numerous most interesting and pressing appeals for help have lain before us unanswered for the want of means to do so. Other ports resorted to by thousands of our seamen annually are equally destitute.—The sailor will find there ample provision for his lusts, and his ruin,—furnished too often by unprincipled men from christian lands, but he will find nothing to save, or to do him good. Scarcely *twenty thousand dollars* in all, a sum not equal to the annual income of many a professed Christian who has obtained his wealth by commerce, are given by the entire body of American Churches to provide for American sailors in foreign ports the means of salvation. Nor is this pittance increasing in anything like the ratio of the demand. While the amount of our shipping and commerce quadruples itself in twenty-five years, the resources of the cause, and the extent of our operations are scarcely greater than they were twelve years ago.

We throw ourselves then, anew upon the consideration and support of the christian public. We ask them to inquire into the merits and the wants of this cause,—the personal need of the sailor himself,—the condition of our marine service, as connected with the honor and prosperity of our country,—and the moral influences which, through our commerce we are sending forth upon all the nations of the world,—and consider whether they are not summoned by Providence to take hold of the work of evangelizing seamen with vigor. The sea is, no less than the land, a part of that field which God committed to the husbandry of his Church—its many-furrowed bosom is likewise visited by the gentle showers of His spirit, and now offers itself to us white to the harvest. "PRAY YE THEREFORE THE LORD OF THE HARVEST THAT HE WILL SEND FORTH LABORERS INTO HIS HARVEST."

#### ANNIVERSARY.

The 30th Anniversary of the Seamen's Friend Society, was held at the Church of the Puritans May 10 ; W. A. Booth, Esq., President, in the chair. The exercises were commenced by a voluntary upon the organ, prayer by the Rev. Dr. Ferris, and the singing of a hymn. The Rev. I. P. Warren read an abstract from the Annual Report. The Chairman then introduced to the audience the Rev. P. Boughton, Secretary of the Western Seamen's Friend Society, who spoke of the vast extent of lake-shore, canals, and navigable waters of the West, and consequently of the numerous sailors and boatmen in that

section of our land. He spoke of the good effects of the efforts of the Society, the numbers of children gathered into the Sabbath schools, and of sailors converted and brought to Christ. The old idea that it was almost impossible for the sailor to be saved, except in very rare instances, was now exploded. These men who go down upon the great deep, are exposed to dangers from the tempest and the gale ; but far greater is the danger to them on the shore, from land-sharks, worse than those at sea, and from all kinds of temptations which surround them the moment they come on shore. He asked if nothing should be done for the sailor ? Yes, some-

thing must be done to save him from the storms of eternity. Christians must pray for him. He believed that the millennium would not be ushered in till the sailor was brought in.

Mr. Booth then introduced the Rev. Mr. Hanks, Secretary of the Boston Seamen's Friend Society, who had in his hand a Bible and a daguerreotype, which were found in the chest of a boy who was shipwrecked on our coast. The chest was washed ashore, and this Bible found in it, with these words, placed there by the mother :

"A parent's blessing on her son  
Goes with this holy thing ;  
The love that would retain the one  
Must to the other cling.  
Remember, 'tis no common toy—  
A mother's gift—remember, boy."

He urged the necessity of providing the Bible for every sailor boy.

After the singing of a hymn, the chairman said, they were always pleased to hear from the sailor himself, and called upon Captain Lunt, who said he had been a sailor all his life. His first recollections were of his mother watching and praying for the safe return of his father, who was a sailor. At the age of fourteen, his father having died, he went to sea under the protection of a brother. He himself was taken sick ; afterwards the brother was taken sick, and died. He, however, still followed the sea. He had three times been shipwrecked, and twice cast away. In 1832, when he was a captain, the vessel in which he was, was struck by a cake of ice, which stove in her bows ; they took to an open boat, and for forty-eight hours they were beaten about till they nearly gave up all hope. Finally they spied a light, which proved to be a small schooner from "way down East." He immediately hailed the schooner, and told them he was wrecked, and wanted to

come on board. The reply was, "Oh, Cape Canso is only 150 miles ; I guess you'll fetch." However, they were taken on board, and soon found the "skipper," who treated them very kindly. He gave an amusing description of the fare on board, which consisted of "stu'n'sail tea," black bread, herring and potatoes, with a spoonful of molasses as a luxury. He related several other instances, in order to show the hardships to which sailors were exposed.

The Rev. W. H. Milburn was then introduced, who said that the early influence of our mercantile marine upon peaceful heathen lands, who thus received the vices that festered in our cities, was deleterious and almost destructive. If it was different now, it was because of the establishment of such societies as this, which have defended the temporal interests of the sailor, while also taking care of his spiritual welfare ; that they may go forth now feeling, that though they sink to death and lie upon coral reefs, they may rely upon a God, who will watch over and take care of their souls. These sailors go forth to all nations, either to spread vice and wickedness, or else as ministers of the Gospel of Christ. Supplied with Bibles, as they are by this Society, do they not go out carrying the good seed with them ? With all their generosity and warmth of character concentrated and directed in the right way, was not this a practical Christianity and a practical benevolence which befriended him, and put into his hands the means of doing so much good ? Let us use the sailor as a missionary, and, in order to use him, let him be provided for and cared for. He thought this Society deserving of our warmest sympathy and our hearty co-operation.

The exercises were then closed by



the singing of the "Mariner's Hymn," and the benediction by Rev. Dr. Wyckoff.

### DISASTERS FOR APRIL.

#### STEAMER.

Telegraph, fr. Port Townsend to Port Gambia. Loss \$10,000.

#### SHIPS.

Meridian, fr. New York, to Panama; abandoned. 67,540.

John Gilpin, fr. Honolulu, to New Bedford; abandoned. 160,000.

Titan, fr. Callao to Cork; abandoned.

#### BARKS.

Hellespont, fr. Havana, to Falmouth, England. 30,000.

Victor, fr. Callao, to Dunkirk; abandoned. 22,000.

Rhone, fr. St. Thomas, to Cuba. 10,000.

Exchange, fr. Liverpool to Nowport, Wales. 25,000.

#### BRIGS.

Frs. Fabers, fr. Philadelphia, to St. Jago, Cuba; abandoned. 15,000.

Cornelia, fr. Mazatlan, to San Francisco; abandoned. 25,000.

Sarah Vose, fr. Havana, to France.—15,000.

Victoria, (Br.) fr. Nassau, N. P. to Baltimore; sunk after collision. 28,000.

Naratiska, fr. Santa Cruz to Swan Island. 4,500.

Macon, fr. Savannah, to New York; missing. 25,000.

Maury, (Br.) fr. St. John, N. F., to Boston; missing. 9,000.

Manhattan, fr. Boston, to Cienfuegos. 13,000.

Alamode, (Br.) fr. Porto Rico, to Boston. 14,000.

Antelope, fr. Minatitlan, to New York. 25,000.

John Marston, fr. St. Thomas, to Key Verd. 6,000.

Lion, fr. Aux Cayes, to Boston. 15,000.

#### SCHOONERS.

L. C. Kelly, fr. Baltimore to Providence, sunk after collision. 6,000.

North Carolina, fr. Rockport, Me., to Georgetown, S. C. 2,000.

R. & H. Estelle, fr. Philadelphia, to Marblehead. 4,500.

Emporium, fr. Tinkerton, N. J. 3,500.

Fox, fr. Georgetown, S. C., to Charleston. 3,500.

Franklin, to Boston; abandoned. 3,000.

Ginnethe, fr. Ponce, to United States; missing. 10,000.

Isaac Achorn, fr. Rockland, to Boston; 2,500.

Jane C. Doughty fr. Atlantic City, to New York. 3,000.

Julia, fr. Boston, to Philadelphia. 3,000.

Sarah Bartlett, fr. Tuspan, to Sabine; abandoned. 37,000.

Beacon, fr. N. Carolina, to Georgetown, S. C. 4,000.

Enterprise, fr. St. Jago, Cuba, to New York. 20,000.

J. A. Westervelt, (boat,) sunk after collision.

#### SUMMARY.

Steamer,	1	Value,	10,000,
Ships,	3	"	377,540.
Barks,	4	"	87,000.
Brigs,	12	"	149,000.
Schooners,	14	"	102,000.

34	771,040.
Other damage,	208,000.

Total loss. 979,040.

### RECEIPTS.

From April 1st to May 1st, 1858.

*Directors for life by the payment of \$50.*

Capt. Chas. H. Bigelow, by Lawrence Street Cong. Ch., Lawrence, Mass., (balance)—also a gold ring, . . . \$ 38 59

*Members for life by the payment of \$20 00*

Horace D. Abbott, by Cong. Ch.

Bath, N. H., . . . \$ 20 00

Mrs. F. Patten, by Cong. Ch.

Candia, N. H., . . . 20 00

Rev. S. J. Austin, by Cong. Ch.

Mason Village, N. H., . . . 24 00

Rev. Frederick Abbe, by Cong.

Ch. Abington, Mass., . . . 21 52

Rev. A. W. Stevens, by Cong.

Ch. Westminster, Vt. (in part) 9 75

Albert Norcross, by Cong. Ch.

Monson, Mass., . . . 20 00

Abram Haskell, . . . do do 20 00

George H. Davis, by Cong. Ch.

North Andover, Mass., . . . 28 00

Rev. Frederick Hinckley, by

First Unitarian Ch., Lowell,

Mass., . . . 22 77

Mary Curtis, by Cong. Ch. . . 32 50

Leonard Poole, by Cong. Ch.,

South Danvers, Mass., . . . 34 00

Deacon A. North, by S. S. School,

Cong. Ch., Berlin, Ct. . . 20 60

Rev. Sam'l Fiske, by Ladies

Union Soc'y, Madison, Ct. . . 20 00

Mrs. Chs. A. Redfield, by do.

(in part,) . . . 15 00

Rev. James Gallup, by Cong.

Ch., Essex, Ct. . . 21 00

William E. Warren, New York,

(amount previously received.)

Mary Louisa Hale, by Pres. Ch.	
Pennington, N. J., . . .	20 00
Arthur Hale, . . . by do. do.	20 14
Miss Frances Hale, by herself, do.	20 00
Rev. Israel Townsend, Cold Spring, N. J., (amount previously acknowledged.)	
Rev. Joseph H. Kennard, Phila. Pa., (am't previously ack'd.)	
Rev. Dr. Cole, do. do.	
Rev. W. Cathcart, do. do.	
Geo. H. Stuart, Esq., do. do.	
Rev. W. Cooper, do. do.	
John P. McLean, Wilmington, Del. (am't previously acknow.)	
Theodore Hyatt, do. do.	
Henry F. Morrow, do. do.	

*Donations.*

Friends in Union, Maine,	0 50
Union Meeting, Kennebunk, Me.	50 50
Bapt. Church, Waterville, Me.	23 05
Cong. " " "	13 60
Three Friends, " " "	3 50
Cong. Ch. Dover, N. H., .	22 75
Cong. Ch. Great Falls, N. H.,	8 75
Rev. Mr. Smith's Ch. Boscawen, N. H., . . .	14 00
David Whitcomb, Worcester, Mass., \$20, less 12 50 for Mag.	7 50
Ladies Bethel Soc. of Newburyport, Mass.	40 00
Levi Boardman, Sheffield, Mass.	5 00
Cong. Ch. North Abington, do.	15 40
First Ch. Randolph, . . .	34 00
" " Putney, . . .	6 33
" " Lenox, . . .	25 78
" " Chester, . . .	6 00
" " Franklin, . . .	21 22
W. C. G. Springfield, . . .	20 00
A. W. Mitchell, Woodbury, Ct.	40 00
Ladies Benev. Soc., Berlin, "	5 00
S. S. Met. Epis. Ch. Westport, "	1 75
Cong. Ch. " " "	41 03
" " Clinton, " "	16 00
" " Whitneyville, " "	10 42
" " S. School, " "	9 41
" " Kensington, " "	10 00
First Pres. Ch. Clarkson, N. Y.,	15 70
Two S. Sch. Scholars, Collegiate Ref. Dutch Ch., N. Y., . . .	1 65
Church of the Pilgrims, Brooklyn, N. Y., . . .	105 59
First Pres. Ch. Brooklyn, E. D. N. Y. including subscriptions,	29 74
Plymouth Ch. Brooklyn, N. Y.	265 35
Met. Ep. Ch. Pennington, N. J.	7 33
Pres. Ch. Con. Farms, . . .	20 00
Rev. J. B. Ripley, Phila., Pa.	5 00
Sailor's Invalid Friend, Wash. D.C.	1 00

Sundry collections in Mobile, particulars hereafter.	1,225 69
Electa Tirrell, Plymouth, Ill.	1 00
Rev. Geo. Moore, Mt. Pleasant, Io.	1 00
Proceeds of the sale of a boat,	85 00
Late Timothy Stillman, of Wethersfield, Ct., Rev. T. Stillman, Executor, . . .	500 00

\$3,143 41

*Receipts into the treasury of the American Bethel Soc., Rev. J. W. Elliott, Dist. Sec'y.*

Cong. Ch. Elmyra, N. Y.,	\$19 00
Citizens of Havanna, "	9 75
Second Pres. Ch. Auburn,	26 10
John Crozier, Esq., Chester, Pa.	10 00
John Carier, Summit Bridge, Del.	5 00
Pres. Ch., Newcastle, "	33 55

\$103 40

*Receipts into the treasury of the Boston S. F. Soc'y., Rev. S. W. Hanks, D. Sec'y.*

Brighton Cong. Society, .	\$ 40 00
Boston Mt. Vernon Ch. (add.)	10 00
E. Boston Maverick Ch. .	3 70
Boston, Pine St. Ch. .	47 22
E. Cambridge, Mrs. Tyler, .	5 00
Brookline, Eliza Pierce, .	5 00
Cambridge Shepherd Society,	80 18
Northboro, Mrs. Anna McFarland, by A. W. Seaver, exec'r.	400 00

\$ 501 10

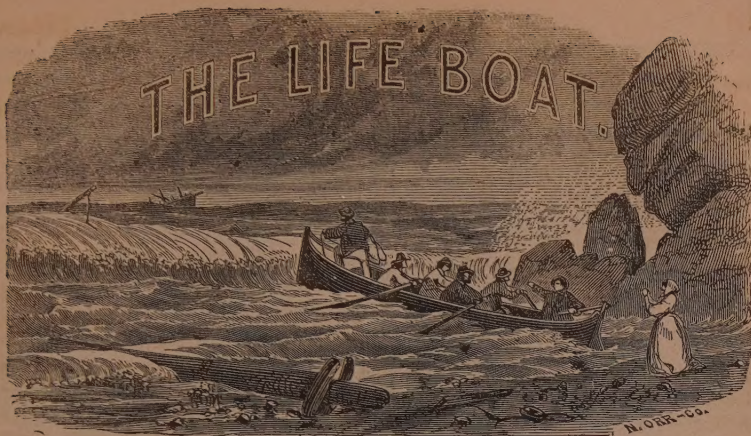
Whole amount, \$3,837 91

*Received for Sailor's Home, New York.*

One bundle of Bedding, from Ladies Benev. Soc'y, Berlin, Ct.	
Ladies Seamen's Friend Soc'y, Hadley, Mass., one Quilt.	
Box of Wearing Apparel for seamen and their families, from a few friends in Mendham, N. J.	
Ladies Seamen's F. Soc'y, 2d Pres. Ch. Troy, N. Y., 10 pair Woollen Socks.	
Ladies Seamen's F. Soc'y Concord, N. H., 24 Flannel Shirts, 9 pair Woollen Socks, 11 Handkerchiefs, 5 Check Shirts, 1 Quilt, 27 Pillow Cases, 18 Sheets.	

*Received for Sailor's Home Boston.*

Spencer, by Mrs. Wm. Upham,	
2 Quilts, 2 Comforters, 6 Shirts, 8 Pillow Cases, 2 Roller Towels.	
Brighton Dorcas Soc., 7 Flannel Shirts.	
Hopkinton Ladies Bethel Society,	
7 Shirts, 4 Pillow Cases,	
2 Quilts, valued at . . .	\$ 8 00
Towels, . . .	1 00



June, 1858. Published by the Amer. Seamen's Friend Society. No. 6.

### ZION'S WELCOME TO THE SAILOR.

BY REV. CHARLES W. DENISON.

Welcome, O, sailor! a welcome to Zion!

Her King and her hosts bid a welcome to thee!  
The word of our God thou may'st surely rely on,  
For He hath proclaimed it, far off on the sea!

Oh! son of the ocean! how often in danger  
Thy pathway is swept by the wind and the wave!  
Come now to port Zion, no longer a stranger,  
Where Christ, our Redeemer, is mighty to save!

See, brother sailor! the Spirit around thee  
Is calling thy soul from its folly and sin;  
Oh! burst the vile fetters that ever have bound thee,  
Oh! fly where our Captain shall welcome thee in!

Child of the sea! the bright angels are bending  
Above thee this moment, and bid thee arise!  
Oh! haste now to Christ, and aloft high ascending  
Thou'lt rest in his bosom, for aye in the skies!

### PRAYER MEETING ON A WHALER.

On Tuesday the 4th inst. the Bark *Ionian*, Capt. James W. Morse, sailed from New Bedford for the Pacific Ocean, having dropped down into the stream on the afternoon previous. The crew, as usual called the ship-keeper down below, who responded that he did not care about going, supposing a "treat" or something of the sort was in progress; but finally yielded, and found that a prayer-meeting was being held, after which the crew passed a series of resolutions for their good conduct during the voyage, one of which was a prohibition and pledge against swearing, and another that prayers should be had night and morning in the fore-castle, with the captain's permission. The following letter was sent by the crew to Mrs. Phipps of the

Sailor's Home, N. B. Would that every whale ship made as auspicious a departure from port as this.

"NEW BEDFORD May 3d, 1858.

Mrs. Phipps—It is with great joy that I now seat myself to write a few lines to you this evening, to let you know that we have begun a good work, and by the grace of God we mean to carry it out with all of the shipmates.

We have held a prayer-meeting on board of this ship; and about half a dozen have read a chapter apiece from the Bible, and feel an interest in the salvation of their souls, and we hope more will come out on the Lord's side.

We anticipate a pleasant voyage, and we mean to hold up the Lord and live for him and die for him.

Henry Warren Woods offered prayer in the fore-castle, and all felt an interest in it. We feel as though your prayers had been heard and answered, in our behalf, and we still request your prayers in the behalf of our crew in the *Bark Ionian*; and we all think of the tokens and of the advice of yours. We desire the prayers of the christians. Yours with respect,

Henry W. Wood, John W. Ellis,  
Charles Jay, Henry F Hollis,  
Francis M Heating, Sam. B. Randall,  
Allen Smith.

Written in behalf of the Crew of the *Bark Ionian*.

We shall write as often as possible and hope you will the same. Good bye."

Spurgeon sometimes comes out with a good thing. "Brethren," said he, "if God had referred the Ark to a Committee on Naval Affairs, it's my opinion it wouldn't have been built yet!"





### SAILOR'S SNUG HARBOR, STATEN ISLAND.

This Institution,—one of the noblest charities which grace this commercial metropolis, is the fruit of a bequest made for the purpose by Capt. Robert R. Randall in 1801. Capt. R. resided on a small farm of 21 acres which he called the "Sailor's Snug Harbor," in the upper part of the city, comprising the territory now extending from the Bowery to Fifth Avenue, and from 6th to 10th Streets, nearly the whole of which is now covered with the most costly and magnificent stores and dwellings. He was a bachelor, and a very amiable man. It is said however that he possessed a hasty temper, in consequence of which he once struck a sailor, and unintentionally caus-

ed his death. The circumstance so weighed on his mind that he determined, as a reparation, to give all his property to some charity. Accordingly by his will he left his farm and some stocks to found an asylum for aged and worn out seamen, to be called by the name which he had given to his home.

It was his intention to have the Asylum built on his land, but the rapid growth of the city, and the rise in the value of property, soon made it advisable to select another location. A site was procured on Staten Island, and the original farm placed under leases, renewable once in twenty-one years, the income of which is to be appropriated for

ever, for the maintenance of the Institution. The amount of that income is now some \$75,000 per annum.

About three hundred and fifty "Old Salts" are now sharing the benefits of this asylum, being wholly supported by it. All aged, decrepit, and worn out sailors, provided they have sailed five years under the flag of the United States, are qualified for admission, and may continue there for the remainder of their lives. Regular religious services are held in the chapel. A farm of 150 acres furnishes employment and exercise to all who choose to labor, though none are compelled to it. For drunkenness, insubordination and vice they are liable to expulsion.

The buildings are delightfully situated, and constitute an excellent home for the worn out and hardy sons of the ocean. A marble monument in front commemorates the liberality of the founder. May all those who share in this noble charity, reach at last the great "Snug Harbor" above.

#### JACK AND THE YELLOW-BOYS.

In the *British Workman* there is a large and very graphic picture representing the following scene :

"Halloa, Jack, you look very *yellow*," cried a landlord to a Jack Tar, who had once been a good customer.

"No no! old Timber-Toes," cried Jack "it's my *POCKET* that's turned yellow since I gave up drinking."

Jack suiting the action to the word, drew about twenty gold sovereigns from his pocket, and placing them on the palm of one hand, pointing with the other, saying,

"See here, old Timber-Toes, it's my *pocket* that's yellow with these *yellow-boys*."

Remember young readers, your *pockets* will never become yellow with such *yellow-boys*, if you form the habit of *drinking* and *smoking*. (Well-Spring.)

#### CONVERSION OF A SAILOR.

During the revival in this city, many incidents of great interest have occurred illustrating the power of God's grace among seamen. At a prayer meeting in Plymouth Church, (Rev. H. W. Beech-

er's) a young man, an American, arose and spoke as follows :—

"I am a stranger here, but I trust I am not a stranger to Christ. It is not long since I was converted, yet now I know Him, and am no longer a stranger to His love. I speak with great trembling before my brethren, because I feel my weakness, yet I am made strong through the grace of God. When I went to sea I left behind me one of the best of mothers that ever lived. She was a pious woman, and used to pray for me. She used to pray for me before I went away from home, and after I had gone she prayed more than ever. Her prayer always was that I might become a Christian. In my early youth, before I went away from my father's house, I was a scholar in a Sunday school, where I learned many lessons that I shall never forget. When I was at sea, off St. Vincent, a great storm arose. It was a tremendous gale, and many vessels were wrecked. We all thought that we should go to the bottom. There seemed to be no possibility that the ship should hold out against it, and we gave up hope. There was not a single person on board that was a Christian—none to whom I could go to seek counsel in view of preparing for eternity. I sat alone by myself, thinking what I could do. I was afraid to meet death, for I was unprepared to die. All the lessons that I had learned in the Sabbath-school came up before my mind. It seemed as if all that I had ever heard, or read, or known, flashed before me and appeared as if it had all happened but yesterday. I thought of my religious instruction; I thought of my mother's prayers; I thought of the Bible; I thought of God; I saw my mother's tears; I determined to pray, and I did pray. I made a vow before God, that if he would spare me, and suffer me to get ashore once more, I would consecrate all the rest of my life to his service. He heard my prayer, and we were saved. A short time afterward we were at St. Helena. Here there was a church, and when I saw it I began to remember what I had told God in the storm. I began to pray, and to pray earnestly for my salvation; and now I rejoice with great joy, and thank God with many thanks that he has shown me the way of life, and led my feet to walk in it. The prayers of my good mother are answered, for I trust that I am a child of God, redeemed by the blood of Christ."

These words were uttered with some hesitancy, occasioned by great emotion, and were listened to with intense eagerness by the congregation. The leader of



the meeting then called upon some member of the church to offer a prayer of thanksgiving, in view of the story that had been related; and prayer was accordingly offered.

Before the meeting concluded, two other seamen narrated the circumstances of their conversion at sea.

'A babe is a mother's anchor. She cannot swing far from her moorings. And yet a true mother never lives so little in the present as when by the side of the cradle. Her thoughts follow the imagined future of her child. That babe is the boldest of pilots, and guides her fearless thoughts down through scenes of coming years.—The old ark never made such a voyage as the cradle daily makes.'

H. W. BEECHER.



### OVER THE FALLS.

Our picture tells its own story. The hapless boatman has carelessly allowed himself to float down the deceitful current till he awakes to find himself on the verge of ruin. He starts up in affright,—his oar falls from his hand,—the boat already poised over the foaming brink,—a moment more and the fatal plunge will have been taken!

It is the picture of many an individual who suffers himself to embark on the current of vice. At first the stream is smooth, the waters bright, the sky above smiling, and lulled to fatal security he glides thoughtlessly on till the dashing rapids and the hoarse murmur of the cataract wake him too late to his folly.

The drunkard began with sipping the social glass, taking "a little" once in a while, till at length he descended into the rapids of appetite, lost the oar of self command, and is hurried OVER THE FALLS!

The debauchee went to the theatre "just to see for once what it was,"—from thence, he entered, "only for once," into the house which is the chamber of death, and so conscience was paralyzed, the

raging waves of passion hurried him on, and he went OVER THE FALLS!

The thief first took a few cents from his employer,—then a few more,—till he became too deeply involved for concealment,—and found himself at last OVER THE FALLS.

They who neglect God and prayer, who put far away the thoughts of religion, and presume on the chances of the future, are hurrying in fatal security down the stream of time. The golden moments of probation are wasted, priceless opportunities are neglected, and the life-bark freighted with the precious interests of the soul, plunges into the gulf of everlasting death.

Dear reader, are YOU going over the falls?

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